

Central West Libraries' 24 Hour Read

What is it?

To celebrate the National Year of Reading 2012, Central West Libraries will be hosting a *24 Hour Read* starting on Wednesday, 12 September 2012 across the local government areas of Orange, Cabonne, Blayney, Cowra and Forbes. This will be our major National Year of Reading event and we want it to be HUGE!

How does it work?

It's probably easiest for us to paint a word picture:

Fast forward to Wednesday 12 September when the 24 Hour Read begins. At the stroke of 11am storytime will start at our Orange, Cowra, Molong, and Forbes Libraries and continue through until 11.10am. The reading baton will then be taken up by another participant, for example a school, and go through to 11.20am before being handed onto the next participant. The relay will last for 24 hours ending at 11am on Thursday 13 September.

In any 10 minute time slot there may be many people reading – or maybe only one. Our aim is to have an unbroken chain.

The beauty of the 24 Hour Read is that you read wherever you are for your 10 minutes – your classroom, office, car, business etc. What we will ask you to do is to take a photo of you reading (or ask someone else to) so that we can put it on our Facebook page and create a record of our reading communities.

What do I read?

It doesn't matter what you read: a book; a newspaper; a street map; a reference manual; a timetable; a letter or report; a medical chart you can read anything you choose. It may be something that you need to read as part of your day to day activities or it may be reading for pleasure. Don't forget listening to an audio book also counts as reading.

Why 10 Minutes?

There's a wealth of evidence to show that children who are read to for just 10 minutes a day from birth are readily able to learn to read once they start school and instils a lifelong love of reading.

Literacy skills are the foundation for lifelong learning. They help people make the most of education and employment opportunities.

According to the 2006 Adult Literacy and Life Skills Survey, nearly half of all Australians (46%) don't have the literacy skills they need to cope with the complex demands of everyday life. As our contribution to the National Year of Reading 2012 we want to draw attention to the importance of reading and show that the Central West is a reading community.

How can I be involved?

You are invited to participate by completing the attached registration form nominating a 10 minute timeslot within that time and we will then send you further details.

Feel free to invite others to be involved as well. You might also like to indicate your participation on Facebook tinyurl.com/24hourread